



# *Alumni Columns*

Magazine Summer 2008  
Northwestern State University of Louisiana

**DISTANCE LEARNING**  
**@ NORTHWESTERN STATE**



## Dr. Randall J. Webb, 1965, 1966

President, Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni:

Thanks to each of you for all you have done to make the past academic year a successful one at Northwestern State University.

This year, more than 1,200 new graduates received degrees and continue the tradition of spreading the good name of the university wherever they may be. It seems wherever I travel, I run across alumni of Northwestern or family members of alumni who share stories about their positive experiences at the university.

In May, I had the privilege of taking part in our Spring Commencement Exercises. This is one of the most enjoyable parts of my job as I get to see the happy faces of our graduates and their families. Earning a college degree is the culmination of several years of hard work by our students and financial and personal sacrifices by their families. I am glad to be there to share in that experience and to express to each of them how proud I am of what they have accomplished.

As part of the ceremony, I ask those who have had family attend Northwestern to stand. It is gratifying to see all those graduates whose families thought so much of this institution that they encouraged their sons, daughters, grandchildren or relatives to follow in their footsteps.

I also ask those who are first generation college graduates to stand. These students have so many stories of personal determination to tell. I enjoy learning from them what they had to do to earn a degree and how graduating from Northwestern will open doors in the future.

By reading this magazine four times a year and assisting the NSU Alumni Association and the NSU Foundation, you are able to make dreams happen. The Alumni Association and Foundation provide many scholarship opportunities for students and support Northwestern in many ways.

I appreciate all of your help in making Northwestern an even stronger institution.

## J. Kevin McCotter,

Director of Alumni and Development

Dear Alumni:

Your Office of Alumni & Development has just completed a busy spring season filled with recruiting receptions, alumni gatherings and spring graduation in early May. The summer season gives us a chance to reflect on past accomplishments and set our sights on the future.

In early January, Athletic Director Greg Burke informed the NSU Foundation Board of Directors about a potential request for providing financing to construct new scoreboard facilities at all campus athletic venues. Much work took place over the next few months and I am pleased to report the Foundation Board approved the \$1.6 million project on April 25, coincidentally the same day it was approved by the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors. Congratulations to Greg and his team and our Foundation Board! More information concerning the project is in this issue of *Alumni Columns*.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors is meeting quarterly and has adopted a plan of work for 2008. It includes strengthening alumni ties through participation in community gatherings, tailgate events and social networking on our soon-to-launch Alumni Community website. The Association plans to also assist our recruiting staff by identifying potential students earlier in their high school careers, support the Annual Fund Drive and Phone-A-Thon and develop an alumni recognition program. Thanks to your Alumni Association officers and Board of Directors for their leadership!

Please know how much we appreciate your support of Northwestern. Your time, talent and treasure are a tribute to our university and provide inspiration to our current students, faculty and administration. At Northwestern, we define alumni as all former students; that is, any individual who was enrolled and attended classes at any time in the past. If you are not active in your university's affairs, we encourage you to get involved and receive the joy of embracing Northwestern as your own. You will find it is nourishment for the soul!

You are always welcome on campus and we hope you will stop by the Alumni House if your travels bring you to Natchitoches. As we look to the future, we see a vibrant, engaged alumni community helping us build on our rich history. Together we can craft the Northwestern State University of the 21st century.



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It is the policy of Northwestern State University of Louisiana not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment practices.

Photo illustration on the cover: NSU students and active military personnel Adrian Borel and Wyman Rosener take advantage of on-line degree programs.



# DISTANCE LEARNING @ NORTHWESTERN STATE

*On-line programs broaden opportunities for learners*

When Clyde Coats gets a break from his full time job, he spends his free time studying to earn an associate degree in general education. His responsibilities for his day job are subject to frequent change and some assignments require more of his time than others. Getting the proper books for his class work can be a challenge. But Coats forges ahead with the goal of eventually earning a degree in education and teaching at the high school level. Northwestern's innovative approaches to distance learning have made it possible for Coats and others like him to make strides in meeting their goals from as far away as Camp Loyalty, Iraq.

"Some of the challenges besides scheduling is the constant change of being in a combat zone," said SFC Coats, who is with the 4th Brigade 10th Mountain Division in Baghdad. "Getting books on time can be a problem, so you have to plan early."

Last spring, Coats was enrolled in a finance class through the NSU-Leesville campus.

Although continuing with school has been a challenge, Coats is looking forward to his retirement in three years.

"I really like to be home on my own land," the Rosepine native said. "I should graduate from the associate program by the time I retire, if not earlier, depending on the job I get once I get back to Fort Polk. I should then be finished with my teaching degree one and a half to two years after that."

As the Military Liaison Officer for NSU, Robert Triplett works with active duty soldiers, family members, retirees, vets and anyone else who needs help.

"I assist the active duty guys in taking several transcripts and working up a degree plan with a light at the end of the tunnel," Triplett said. "The soldier's ability

to attend classes is based on his availability. It is normally dictated by their jobs," Triplett said. "Once they get started, they are pretty much like our other nontraditional students. As with any other student, the soldier has to juggle time in order to attend school and work full time, a challenge faced by most non-traditional students."

"I have been a student all my life," Coats said. "You never really stop learning."

It is with that sentiment in mind that NSU has become a pioneer in redefining campus borders, offering 14 on-line degree programs along with a growing number of certification courses. Internet-only students do not pay any out-of-state fees and with fully accredited on-line degree programs from the associate through the masters' levels, and a full array of support services, no student in need of an education should feel place or time bound.

In 2006, Kristin Shoemaker of Warsaw, Ind., became the first Northwestern undergraduate to earn her bachelor's degree entirely online, having never stepped foot on NSU's campus until she arrived to collect her diploma. She earned a degree in psychology with a 3.952 grade point average. Shoemaker selected NSU after rejecting other institutions that presented obstacles such as residency requirements or accreditation problems. Most students, however, take a mixture of



Clyde Coats

on-line and traditional classes. In 2007, about half of all students enrolled at NSU were taking at least one class on-line.

NSU's earliest distance learning courses were offered via satellite, audio graphics and video conferencing. In 1998, the first on-line course was offered through the College of Education.

"The primary purpose for offering courses using distance learning was to reach rural populations in rural areas," said Dr. Darlene Williams, acting vice president for Technology, Research and Economic Development. "Another reason for embracing distance learning as a viable delivery method was due to the innovative nature and interest of the faculty. Also, NSU's innovators were supported by visionary leaders

See Distance Learning Page 2



Left photo: Lt. Jeffrey Giering, S3, Future Operations, sent a picture from Baghdad of himself and Cpt. Joe Barnett. Both graduated from NSU in 1997 and "are carrying on in true Demon fashion." Above, Giering and his wife Melissa (1997) visited the NSU campus, presenting the flag to Dr. Chris Maggio.



Samuel Wise of Lena, a fourth generation of alumnus of NSU, graduated cum laude with a degree in biology in May 2008. Wise plans to attend graduate school and pursue a career in environmental biology. Wise graduated from Northwood High School in Lena and chose NSU because of its proximity to his home and family. Wise comes from a long line of NSU graduates: Great-grandmother Lovenia Morea Wise earned a teaching certificate from Normal in 1917 and another great-grandmother, Inez Rougeau Beebe, graduated in the 1920s. His grandmother, Geraldine Beebe Wise

graduated in 1946. Father William Jackson Wise and mother June Jones both graduated in the 1970s and older brother William J. Wise graduated in 2006.

Billy (1956) and Rose Marie Dearing of Shreveport (1957), seated, created an endowed scholarship to benefit a mathematics student at NSU. Thanking them on behalf of the university were Drake Owens and Jill Bankston.



## Class of 1957 achieving pledge goal

Members of the Class of 1957 have currently raised \$31,219 toward their goal of \$60,000 to fulfill the Class of 1957 Endowed Professorship. The Class of 1957 began the endeavor last year to mark their golden jubilee and was the first graduating class to establish an endowed gift. Donations are still being accepted as the group strives to meet its goal, which will be matched with \$40,000 from the State of Louisiana Board of Regents. To support the endowed professorship, contact Jill Bankston at (318) 357-4241 or Dr. Virginia Crossno at (318) 357-4108.

Continued from Page 1

and support staff who recognized technology as an essential teaching tool for the future."

Technology has changed tremendously since the inception of distance learning at Northwestern and today is utilized by both full-time students and different categories of non-traditional students and other adult learners with full-time jobs.

"NSU evolved from the use of news boards, basic e-mail and non-graphic web pages to full software programs that provide a host of tools for faculty and students," Williams said. "The university strives to provide a seamless learning environment that is dedicated to fostering a culture of lifelong learning."



# Vasquez presents Natchitoches performance

**Dr. Ramon F. Vasquez** (1994) performed in February with the Auburn University Brass Trio in conjunction with an outreach tour of Texas. The trio was hosted by the School of Creative and Performing Arts and, in addition to a concert at Trinity Episcopal Church in Natchitoches, presented a brass clinic to the NSU applied trumpet studio and a clinic for the university jazz orchestra.

Dr. Vasquez plays trumpet in the Trio, the brass ensemble in residence at Auburn University, which performs a broad repertoire of new and standard compositions and arrangements for brass. Vasquez has been on faculty at Auburn since 2005, where he teaches the applied trumpet studio, music appreciation and is director for the Auburn University Jazz Ensemble, Trumpet Ensemble and Student Brass Quintet.

Vasquez graduated from NSU with a bachelor's in music performance and earned a master's degree in music performance at the University of North Texas in 1997 and a doctor of musical arts in music performance from the University of Minnesota in 2005. He served on the faculty at the University of Minnesota-Duluth from 1998-2003 as well as a teaching assistant at North Texas and the University of Minnesota.

Since graduation from NSU, Vasquez had many opportunities to perform for many people across the world and with many acclaimed celebrities

"My education that I received from NSU has truly helped me gain so many opportunities through my experiences from the professors at NSU, particularly [associate professor] Galindo Rodriguez. He took me under his wing when I walked through the door in 1990 and showed me the various things a trumpet player needed to do in order to become an artist and a versatile musician in today's world," Vasquez said.



Galindo Rodriguez and Dr. Ramon F. Vasquez

## College of Education seeking nominations for Hall of Distinguished Educators

Northwestern's College of Education Alumni Advisory Board is seeking nominations for its Hall of Distinguished Educators for 2008. Nominees must have graduated from NSU's College of Education at least 30 years prior to nomination. The inductees will participate in NSU homecoming activities in the fall.

If you know of an outstanding College of Education alumnus who has had a distinguished career in education, please send the nominee's resume or other documentation outlining the reason for the nomination to Jimmy Berry, Chair, Alumni Advisory Board, 454 White Oak Lane, Natchitoches, LA 71457 or email to [jandmberry@suddenlink.net](mailto:jandmberry@suddenlink.net).

Additional information is available from Berry at (318) 357-8546 or Dr. Brenda Hanson in the College of Education at (318) 357-5518 or [dailey@nsula.edu](mailto:dailey@nsula.edu). The deadline to submit 2008 nominations is Aug. 1.

## Alums receive university appointments



**Dr. Darlene Williams** (1989, 1994, 1998) has been named vice president for Technology, Research and Economic Development at NSU. Williams will oversee the Offices of Electronic and Continuing Education, Information Systems, Student Technology, Research and Sponsored Programs and Economic Development.



**Marcus Jones** (1992) has been named Vice President for University Affairs. Jones will be responsible for overseeing construction projects, maintenance, custodial and general upkeep of all university facilities and grounds.



**Steven Gruesbeck** (1997) has been named director of Service-Learning at NSU. Gruesbeck will coordinate and promote the university-wide service-learning initiative.



NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb, left, presented alumnus Joseph Dow of Pasadena, Texas, with an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Dow graduated from NSU in 1963 with a degree in mathematics and is the owner of Dow Pipe and Fence Supply. He is also a member of the NSU Alumni Hall of Distinction, the Long Purple Line. Dow was congratulated by Webb and by Dr. Steve Horton, dean of Graduate Studies.

The first students to receive degrees at Northwestern through the Continuum for All Louisiana Learners (CALL) initiative were recognized during Spring Commencement Exercises. Seated from left, are Perry Lowe of Robeline, Phyllis Edwards of Opelousas, Lasha' Garner of Florien, Catherine Hamilton of Natchitoches and Gerrell Thomas of Oklahoma City, Okla. On the back row are Jimmy Long, a member of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System; Dr. Thomas Hanson, provost and vice president for Academic



and Student Affairs, Northwestern President Dr. Randall J. Webb, Northwestern alumnus Joseph Dow, recipient of an honorary doctorate; Dr. Darlene Williams, vice president for Technology, Research, and Economic Development and State Sen. Gerald Long.

## SPOTLIGHTS



Karren Alexander

**Karren Young Alexander** (1981) has written her first book *Invisible Hand – Overcoming Obstacles and Challenges*. Karren's book takes her readers on a personal journey of her challenges and provides various

techniques that people can apply daily to enrich their lives and restore hope in two ways. First is to walk around MAD all the time; the word MAD is used as an acronym to teach people how to be Motivated with an Attitude of Determination. Second, how to

drive with no hands: Apply simple driving techniques and maintenance requirements for a car to obstacles and challenges. Karren says "As a life coach and transformational speaker, I like to teach people how to let go of past hurts and offenses to achieve their goals and dreams. Many people need to believe that the ability to accomplish their goals and dreams is based on the strength within."

Karren has also written and produced a song titled "The Strength Within."

Karren earned her undergraduate in accounting and business management at NSU and a masters in accounting at Strayer University in Arlington, Va. For more information about her book or to contact Karren, visit

her web site  
[www.karrenalexander.com](http://www.karrenalexander.com).

**Tommy McClelland** (2004, 2005) was named athletics director at McNeese State University in March. McClelland, a former NSU athlete, began serving as interim athletics director in June 2007. Prior to his selection as interim athletics director, he was McNeese's coordinator of athletic events, sales and marketing after serving an internship for a year in the Southland Conference office and being an intern in 2005 in the NSU athletics department. McClelland is the youngest athletics director in the Southland Conference and is believed to be the youngest athletics director for any NCAA Division I university.



## AKA, AΦA reunion planned this fall

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity will host a 35th anniversary and reunion celebration during Homecoming festivities Oct. 24-26. The two Greek organizations were chartered at Northwestern in 1973.

Former members of the Eta Chi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha and Theta Chi chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha are invited to participate in several planned activities, which will begin on Friday with participation in the Homecoming parade and pep rally, followed by a meet and greet reception and an old time step show competition. Saturday's events will include tailgating and attendance at the Homecoming game, followed by an evening banquet that will include a recognition program for charter line members, graduate advisors of the chartering lines and graduate chapters. The group will participate in a worship service on Sunday.

The national Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was founded in 1906. The nation Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded in 1908 and is celebrating its centennial this year.

For more information or to register, contact former Alpha Kappa Alpha President Charlene Miller Voorhoos (1978) at [charlenevoorhies@yahoo.com](mailto:charlenevoorhies@yahoo.com) or (318) 797-8350; or former Alpha Phi Alpha President James Perry at [jaypee1906@yahoo.com](mailto:jaypee1906@yahoo.com) or call (218) 859-7787.



## Purple Jackets seeking former members

The Purple Jackets organization is developing an alumni database. Women who were members of Purple Jackets are asked to contact Frances Watkins Conine, sponsor, at (318) 357-6703 or e-mail [coninef@nsula.edu](mailto:coninef@nsula.edu).

*Look for information on a Purple Jackets reunion in the Fall edition of Alumni Columns.*

McClelland's wife, Jessica Stokes McClelland (2002), is a former NSU athletics department student worker.

**Fekisha Rene Miller** was elected to the St. Landry Parish Council shortly after completing her master's degree in physical therapy from LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport. Fekisha earned a B.S. in biology from Northwestern in 2004.

**Mike Gallien** was named the Aldine, Texas, Independent School District Secondary Principal of the Year for 2007-2008. Mike is the principal of Teague Middle School, a position he has held for the past eight years. He is a 1981 graduate of Northwestern State University with a degree in social sciences education and has 27 years of experience in education, including the last 25 in Aldine, a

north Houston school district comprised of 68 campuses with over 60,000 students. Teague Middle School is a State Recognized seventh and eighth grade campus where Mike has served as an administrator for the past 21 years.

**Archie Anderson** (1982) was named president and chief executive officer of OCI, a healthcare benefits and risk data management provider in April. Anderson has more than 20 years experience in the healthcare, benefits and risk management services industries. AT OCI, he will be responsible for the overall business and will devote his energies toward further growth and expansion. OCI helps the nation's largest employers address the spiraling cost of benefits, one of the most expensive and complex

business problems. OCI provides a view of total benefits costs that enables employers to deliver health-related programs to employees, identify opportunities for improvement of benefits programs, improve the health and productivity of their employees and manage leave programs.

Anderson was most recently president of Intracorp. Prior to that, he spent 18 years at GENEX Services Inc. in a variety of leadership roles including SVP sales and marketing.

Anderson earned both a master's degree in higher education administration and counseling and a B.S. in business administration at Northwestern.

He will be relocating from the Philadelphia area to OCI firm headquarters in Denver.

## Little Rock



Northwestern alumni who gathered for Louisiana Saturday Night in Little Rock in April were, from left, Cammie Hennigan (1994), Mike Corbell (1968), Nina Corbell, Ryan Reed (1999), Amber Reed (2000), Wanda Ford (1986), James Taylor (1990), Drake Owens (2004, 2005), Rick Roper, Armour Bryant, Mary Roper, Debbie Hughes (1974), Neal Shankey (1995), Mike Hughes and Carolyn Lasseigne (1962).



James Taylor (1990), Armour Bryant, Linda Crochet (1992) and Neal Sharkey (1995), joined guests at Louisiana Saturday Night in Little Rock which hosted graduates not only from Northwestern, but also University of New Orleans, University of Louisiana-Monroe, McNeese, University of Louisiana-Lafayette, and Southeastern.

## Baton Rouge

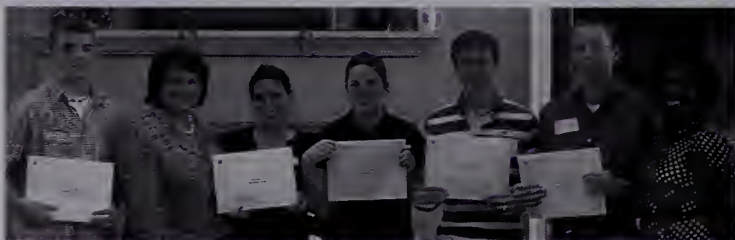


Foundation Board member Al Morrow (1966), Margarette Morrow, Judy Edwards (1966) and Terry Edwards (1966) were among the guests at the Baton Rouge reception.



Erica Adams (2003), Jason St. German (2003), Sara Tanehill (2004), Mia Guillory (2005), Michael St. German (2006), Erin Bardin (2003), Michael Antoon (2007) and Mark Miciotta (2006), got reacquainted at the Baton Rouge reception.

## Natchitoches



Recipients of the Ted Jones Scholarship for the Natchitoches area were, from left, Daniel Longino of Riverdale Academy, Assistant Director of Recruiting Ashlee Crooks-Hewitt (2001), Caitlin Cunningham and Claire Harrington of St. Mary's, Nathaniel Hagan and Michael Hilton of Natchitoches Central High School and Recruiter Nikki Ceaser (2007). The event was hosted by David (1980) and Kim (1985) Wright.

## Bossier City



Amanda Emfiriger of Benton High School was named recipient of the Ted Jones Scholarship for the Bossier area. She was congratulated by Steven Wood (2006). The reception was hosted by Mike Knotts (1986) of Haughton.



## Leesville



Gene (1963) and Martha Koury were hosts of the Leesville recruiting reception.



Shelia Perez of Pickering High School was named the recipient of the Ted Jones Scholarship for the Leesville area. She was congratulated by NSU Director of Alumni and Development Kevin McCotter and Recruiter Nikki Ceaser (2007).

## Ruston



Danny and Lenn Prince (1975) were hosts for the Ruston reception.



Victoria Cararas of Sterlington High School was named Ted Jones Scholarship winner for the Ruston area. She was congratulated by Steve Wood (2006).

## Shreveport Crawfish Boil



Attending the Shreveport crawfish boil were Hal Montgomery (1969), Linda Montgomery, Harold Holly (1970) and Sally Holly, above right, and Lisa Benson (2002), L.J. Benson, Doris Smith (1974, 1989) and Randy Smith, above left.



## Lake Charles/Sulphur



Joshua Meche of Sam Houston High School, right, was named recipient of the Ted Jones Scholarship for the Lake Charles/Sulphur area. He was congratulated by recruiter Nikki Ceaser (2007) and Gen. Erbon Wise.

## Many



Ted Jones Scholarship winners for the Many area were Andrew Kelly of Many High School, left, and Kendi Martinez of Zwolle High School, right. They were congratulated by NSU Recruiter Nikki Ceaser, (2007).



Hosts of the Many recruiting reception were, from left, Steven (2003) and Mary Beth (2003) Van Sickle, Virginia Burkett (1973, 1975), Caleb Burkett, Ellianna Van Sickle, Don Burkett (1974) and Mandy Cathey (2006).

## Lafayette



Derek Clavier of Carencro High School, left, and Carmen Camouche of Northwest High School, right, were named recipients of Ted Jones Scholarships for the Lafayette area. They were congratulated by recruiter Nikki Ceaser (2007).

## New Orleans



Attending the New Orleans alumni reception were, above left photo, Christopher Becker (1995), Stacy Spitzkeit (2004), Ashlie Fisher (2005) and Mohn Maske, as well as Russell (1940) and Mona Bond, above right photo.



Guests in New Orleans also included Rhonda Regouffre (1993), Randy Wiggins (1978), Ginger Wiggins (1981), Patty Hrapmann (1973), Kenny Hrapmann (1973), Nicole Lagasse, Neil Ponstein (2004) and Greg Burke.

## Dallas Crawfish Boil



Reconnecting at the Dallas Crawfish Boil were, above photo from left, Raven Brown (1999), Andrea Bailey (1999), Carmen Peyton (1999) and Quency Perkins. Below are John Brewton (1954), Judy Randolph and Jim Randolph (1966).



Host Jill Cantrell Morrison (1993), center, visited with Kelley Mims (1996) and Angela Hennigan Kelso (1995).

## Shreveport Recruiting Reception



Julie (1976) and Keith (1974) Bergeron, left photo, hosted the Shreveport-area recruiting reception. Andrea Pugh of Northwood High School was named winner of the Ted Jones Scholarship, congratulated by Steven Wood (2006).

## Dallas/Longview Recruiting Reception



Ted Jones Scholarship winners from the Dallas/Longview area with recruiter Ellen Dutsch are, from left, Ashely Hammett of Linden Kildare High School, Heather Smith of Longview and Sam Furlow of Warren T. White High School in Dallas. Hosts for the Dallas reception were Tommy (1973) and Susan McCullough. Hosts for the Longview reception were Carroll (1967) and Susan Long.



Dr. Harry Briggs, a professor of political science at NSU's Leesville/Fort Polk campus, has initiated an American Legion Scholarship. From left are Dr. Larry Monk, executive director of the Leesville campus; Briggs, Holice White, American Legion Post 145 commander; Jill Bankston and Leonard Hulson, finance officer of Post 145.



## Foundation Scholarship Banquet



Among the guests attending the Foundation Scholarship Banquet were, top photo from left, Sue F. Williams, John Williams, Markenia Nicole, Quincy Jackson and Frances Conine, and, bottom photo from left, Justin Krouse, Jill Bankston, Merle Antoon, Danielle Antoon, Melanie Deblieux and Lauren Lupo.



Alliance Compressors presented a \$10,000 donation to the Northwestern State University Foundation during halftime of the March 1 basketball game. The contribution will support the Alliance Compressor Endowed Scholarship Fund and was funded through the Emerson Trust Fund, the charitable trust of Alliance's parent company, Copeland Corporation. From left are NSU Director of Alumni and Development Kevin McCotter, E.J. Billedeaux, employee relations manager; NSU alumna Charmaine Owens, Alliance human resources generalist, and Ken Garner, Alliance continuous improvement manager.

## Alumni Association seeks more involvement, is promoting Annual Fund

Donors to the NSU Alumni Association's Annual Fund Drive have generated much-needed support for the university's most important needs, such as scholarships, recruiting, faculty recognition, alumni programs and campus renovations. The Annual Fund has an impact on virtually every aspect of Northwestern. Every gift is important and every gift helps make a difference.

"All gifts, regardless of size, play an important part in allowing NSU to continue to grow," said Kevin McCotter, director of Alumni and Development. "Whether a gift is \$25 or \$25,000, taken together, the Annual Fund provides one of NSU's most significant sources of support."

This year's Annual Fund Drive will begin with a mail-out in August, followed by a phone-a-thon in November. There are several different levels of giving.

"August, the start of the new school year, is always an exciting time at Northwestern. The annual Alumni Fund Drive is a vital part of the NSU scholarship fund and allows alumni to

participate to become a part of the Demon experience," said Alumni Association President Jerry Brungart (1969, 1971). "We appreciate and thank all the alumni for their contributions."

Brungart said that by supporting the Annual Fund Drive, the Alumni Association is furthering its mission of promoting academic excellence and developing coalitions among alumni, students, friends and the university community. To get more alumni involved, the AA board of directors is encouraging alumni to actively participate in recruiting, promoting the Association website and developing an alumni recognition program. They are also considering ways to improve attendance at tailgates, both at home and on the road, and exploring the possibility of getting involved in area festivals.

"Contributions to this endeavor support the Alumni Association's efforts in engaging students and alumni through reunions, local chapter programs, Grad Fest, Homecoming activities, faculty recognition awards and scholarships," McCotter said. "The Alumni Association also supports recruiting



Pictured from left are Joe Stamey, vice president; Dr. Lisa Mathews, secretary/treasurer; Jerry Brungart, president; Janay Matt, assistant director of alumni relations.

receptions throughout Louisiana and Texas and enhances many aspects of campus life."

All gifts are tax deductible and some companies offer a matching program that allows a donor to double or triple their contribution.

For more information, visit our website at [nsula.edu/alumni](http://nsula.edu/alumni), e-mail [mccotterk@nsula.edu](mailto:mccotterk@nsula.edu), or call (318) 357-4414.

Our toll free number is (888) 799-6486.



### DEMONS 2008 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug 30	TEXAS A&M - COMMERCE	6:00
Sep 06	Baylor	6:00
Sep 13	GRAMBLING STATE	6:00
Sep 20	CAL POLY	6:00
Sep 27	SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA	6:00
Oct 11	NICHOLLS STATE *	6:00
Oct 18	Southeastern Louisiana *	6:00
Oct 25	SAM HOUSTON STATE	2:00
	(Homecoming) *	
Nov 01	Texas State *	TBA
Nov 08	Central Arkansas *	4:00
Nov 15	McNEESE STATE *	6:00
Nov 22	Stephen F. Austin *	6:00

Purple bold text indicates  
HOME games at Turpin Stadium

\* indicates Southland Conference games

Visit [www.nsudemons.com](http://www.nsudemons.com) for more  
information

## SON prepping for a full slate of exciting performances

The Spirit of Northwestern Demon Marching Band has exciting programs in store for Demon fans this fall. In addition to seven home football games, the SON will offer a performance at the Parkway High School (Bossier City) Marching Contest in October, the Natchitoches marching contest in November, a trip to the Steven F. Austin football game and the Christmas Festival.

Dr. Bill Brent, director of bands, and head of the NSU Creative and Performing Arts Department, expects to add about 80 new freshmen to the ranks of the SON resulting in more than 300 musicians and auxiliary performers on the field.

"It is interesting to see them arrive for their first rehearsal because the majority of them were the leaders in their high school bands, either drum majors, section leaders or officers," he said. "We train our upperclassmen to go out of their way to make the adjustment period a positive experience. It seems to work because our retention is really pretty good compared to most university bands."

Widely regarded as one of the best university marching bands in the southeast, the Spirit of Northwestern is a focal point



at athletic events and represents the university at functions throughout the year.

"I have personally had Demon football players tell me more than once that they miss the Demon band when they travel to out-of-town games and that the band helps get them fired up," Brent said. "If we are helping motivate the team, I can't help but believe the fans like the exciting sounds of the Spirit of Northwestern as well."

The band is currently in the midst of a fund drive for new uniforms and through student technology fees was able to purchase several much-needed new instruments.

"We started a campaign for instruments and uniforms in the fall of 2007 and have raised a little over \$10,000," said Brent, who is in his 25th year as director. "It is not going as fast as I had hoped and we have delayed purchasing the uniforms for another year, but we are going to complete our goal, which is \$100,000. The uniform will retain the cape that has become a trademark of the band and we actually have some students who partly come to NSU because they want to wear 'the cape.'"

The 2008-2009 Demon Victory Fund annual fund drive campaign has begun as the NSU Athletic Association prepares to close the books on a banner fundraising year for Northwestern State athletics in fiscal year 2007-2008.

The Demon Victory Fund, which generates monies through the NSU Athletic Association for athletic scholarships for NSU student-athletes, is "the lifeblood of NSU Athletics. It provides support to the areas most critical to ensuring that Demon student-athletes are adequately prepared and substantially supported to compete at the Division I level," said Executive Director of the Athletic Association Dr. William Broussard.

"Support received through the NSU Athletic Association has directly contributed to the many success stories enjoyed by the Northwestern athletic program in recent years," said Director of Athletics Greg Burke. "At the same time, it is exciting to know that there is still tremendous potential for growth and that increasing both donors and dollars for the 'Demon Victory Fund' will not only sustain what has been accomplished, but will enable our student-athletes and coaches to take their programs to a higher level."

The 415 Athletic Association 2007-2008 members, who donated nearly \$217,000 last year, took the new slogan, "Securing our Tradition, Ensuring our Future Excellence" to heart in 2007-2008.

Other areas of focus for growing the DVF and Athletic Association membership in 2008-2009 include introducing no-cost memberships to Demon Rewards participants, former student-athletes graduating after 2005-2006, and providing members with increased incentives to donate.

Anyone who wants more information about the DVF or wishes to contribute who doesn't receive a packet is encouraged to contact Broussard at (318) 357-4295, or by e-mail at [broussardw@nsula.edu](mailto:broussardw@nsula.edu), or click on the Athletic Association button on the [www.nsudemons.com](http://www.nsudemons.com) website.

According to Kevin Richardson (1997), associate director of bands and assistant professor of music, the new brass instruments include 25 saxophones, 25 baritones and 25 melophones, a marching French horn, which will greatly enhance the sound of the band.

"One of the sousaphones we have is older than Bill Brent. It was built in the 40s," he said. "When Bill started, we had five tuba players. Now we have 25."

With seven home games, Richardson, who arranges music and writes drills, has planned several exciting shows.

"Our goal is to do three different halftime shows in addition to our other programs," said Richardson, who began in December 2007 selecting themes for this fall, with some student input

The band will open with a Dave Matthews show that will feature two soloists: professors Paul Forsythe on saxophone and Andrej Kurti on electric violin. The Sept. 20 halftime will incorporate All Honors Band Day, Demon Drum Line and Color Guard Day participants with an expected 600 visiting high school students joining the band on the field for a patriotic salute to the Armed Forces. Next will be a "television mystery music spy-theme show" that will include themes from "Shaft," "Dragnet," "Mission Impossible," "Perry Mason" and "Hawaii Five-O." The season will end with a Latin show featuring Latin standards.

*continued on page 11*





Former coaches, players and staff of the men's basketball team were honored during a reunion March 1. The event was a highlight of NSU's match-up against rival Southeastern.

## Scoreboard replacement project moving forward



NSU received formal approval from the University of Louisiana System to move forward with an initiative to replace outdated scoreboards at all of its athletic venues with scoreboards that feature the latest video and audio technology. The project, a

partnership between the NSU Foundation and the Department of Athletics, will enhance fan experience, create pride among alumni and students, assist with recruiting and help the university avoid costly repairs to old equipment.

NSU is working with Daktronics, the largest scoreboard company in the U.S. The new scoreboards will enable the Athletic Department to increase advertising revenue, as well as enhance the overall image and appearance of the University at venues which attract thousands of people to campus annually. The total value of the scoreboards is \$1,595,000.

"Receiving approval from the Board of Supervisors to move forward with this project is exciting because of the effect it will have on nearly every one of NSU's teams. Recruiting, fan experience, and facility aesthetics will all be positively impacted as a result of this 'scoreboard makeover,'" said Athletic Director Greg Burke. "Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information on how to help, contact Burke at (318) 357-5251.

## Spirit of Northwestern continued

Brent and his staff hope the band's new uniforms will debut in Fall 2009.

"If you hold the old ones up to a new uniform, you really notice the faded colors and the obvious wear and tear. There is only so much dry cleaning can do," Richardson said. "The lifespan of a uniform is about eight years and these are now 12 years old.

The cost of each uniform is \$400. The SON has dubbed the drive the Close the Gap campaign and has asked SON alumni and friends to help meet their fund raising goal.

"The band is the largest spirit group on campus and we try to send representatives to several events throughout the year other than football games, including basketball, baseball and even soccer games from time to time," Richardson said. "Most students in the marching band are not music majors, so the band scholarship definitely helps them attend college and pursue their degree, even if it is not music."

For more information, contact Brent at (318) 357-4522, Richardson at (318) 357-6722 or e-mail them at [brent@nsula.edu](mailto:brent@nsula.edu) or [richardsonk@nsula.edu](mailto:richardsonk@nsula.edu). Information is also available on the band's home page, [nsula.edu/demondband](http://nsula.edu/demondband).

The 1st Bi-Annual  
NSU Athletic Association Roast  
and Golf Tournament

featuring:  
Former Demon  
Head Football Coach  
Sam Goodwin

Mark your Calendars!  
August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

For more information:  
Contact Dr. William Broussard  
Executive Director of the NSU Athletic Association

Phone: 318-357-4295  
Fax: 318-357-4221  
E-mail: [broussardw@nsula.edu](mailto:broussardw@nsula.edu)



Northwestern State  
University  
Athletic Association  
*Victory is on Our Side!*

Legendary retired football coach Sam Goodwin, who won four conference championships and steered Northwestern State to three national playoff appearances while producing dozens of NFL players from 1983-1999, will be the guest of honor for a roast and golf tournament Aug. 23.

Goodwin will be in the spotlight at the first Bi-Annual NSU Athletic Association Roast and Golf Tournament, an event which will be held in even-numbered years. The NSU Athletic Association has hosted its Scholarship Auction dinner and festivities in odd-numbered years on the final weekend before football season since 1989.

"There aren't any more beloved figures in our athletic history than Coach Goodwin, so it was a natural for us to kick off this event by making him the guest of honor at the roast," said Dr. William Broussard, executive director of the Athletic Association and two-time All-American center on Goodwin's final two NSU teams. The golf scramble will be held at the Demon Hills Golf Course on the morning of Aug. 23, with the roast in Prather Coliseum that evening. Entry fees and ticket prices will be announced later along with other arrangements and a roster of featured speakers.



## NFL award named for Demon Joe Delaney

A pro football award honoring a top NFL running back has been named in honor of Joe Delaney, the late Demon great who was a two-sport All-American and NFL star. The Joe Delaney Award will honor one of the NFL's best running backs who also demonstrates admirable character and unselfishness, traits that were embodied by Delaney.

Atlanta Falcons veteran running back Warrick Dunn a Baton Rouge native, was chosen as the first recipient of The Joe Delaney Award by the editors of profootballtalk.com.

Delaney was a running back who drowned in June 1983, in a heroic attempt to rescue three drowning boys, one whom survived. Delaney is a member of the Kansas City Chiefs' Hall of Fame, the College Football Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and NSU's Graduate N Club Hall of Fame.

## Soccer Reunion

Thirteen former Demon soccer players returned to campus for an April 6 reunion that included a full field game against the current team. Among those returning to campus were 2007 Demon goalkeeper Johnna Klohoker, who stood in as coach due to an injury, as well as 11 team alumni who were part of at least one of the NCAA tournament teams.

Romy Marroquin (2002) led the alumni team with 2006 alumni Ashley Hadley and Stephanie Miller and 2006 Player of the Year Heather Penico. Also participating were Katrina Pence, Carrie Crowell, Mya Walsh, Julie Zavala, Krystle Donaldson, Erin Hebert, Natalie Waguespack, and Tiffany Kawana-Waugh.

The alumni proved to still have the talent they had as Demon players, as they held the game scoreless until the last 10 minutes when junior midfielder Gabby Assayag opened up the Demon scoring on a beautiful shot taken right under the 10-minute mark. Not too long after, freshman forward Rose Lawrence added the final goal of the game on a header off a corner kick.

Coach Jimmy Mitchell thanks every alumna for participating in the reunion weekend.



Former Demon soccer players who returned to campus for a spring reunion and matchup against the current team were, front row from left, Stephanie Miller (2005), Natalie Waguespack (2007), Carrie Crowell (2006), Katrina Pence (2004) and Romy Marroquin (2001). On the back row are Krystle Donaldson (2006), Heather Penico (2005), Tiffany Kawana-Waugh (2007), Erin Hebert (2007), Johnna Klohoker (2007), Julie Zavala (2006), Ashley Hadley (2005) and Mya Walsh (2006).

## Chris Roper Memorial Golf Tournament



First place winners in Chris Roper Memorial Golf Tournament sponsored by the NSU Foundation were, from left, Randy Robinson, Doyle Anderson, Charlie Ingalls, Danny Nolen and Kelvin Fee. The event raised over \$8,000 for the Chris Roper Memorial Scholarship Fund.



The second place team in the April 26 Chris Roper Memorial Gold Tournament were, from left, Rick Roper, father of the honoree; Don Ashworth, Chad Burns and Mike Parting. The tournament honors Chris Roper, a senior and top golfer on the Demon squad, who was killed in a traffic accident in 1982.



The team consisting of Richard Tew, Bill Decou, Danny Sullivan and Leonard Conville, from left, placed third in the 26th annual Chris Roper Memorial Golf Tournament. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Chris Roper Memorial Scholarship Fund, awarded annually to an NSU student majoring in health and human performance.



2008 Demon head baseball coach J.P. Davis posed with 1998 Demons Tom Batson, Ryan Anholt, Courtney Cowart, Brad Fontenot, Derek Nunn and Pete Wardell and Director of Athletics Greg Burke during a reunion in April.



# Alumni Updates

1940

Lois B. Gellatly Salter is retired teacher and lives in Houston.

1943

Dorothy Lee Roach is retired and lives in Rockwall, Texas.

Sally Curry Hardenstein is retired and lives in Danville, Va.

1951

Billie Moss Westbrook is a retired teacher and lives in Natchitoches.

1952

James Kenneth Howard is a retired teacher, writer, married and lives in Shreveport.

Dr. Darlene Bennett Blackwell Thompson is retired, married and lives in Leesville.

1954

Suzanne Swann Middleton is a retired teacher, married to Mead Middleton ('60) and lives in Germantown, Tenn.

1957

Reverend Hannah Hayes Howe is an associate pastor at United Congregational Church of Tolland, married and lives in Tolland, Conn.

Sarah E. Ellison Heard is a retired nurse and lives in Logansport.

1958

Esther Rose Knouse Tompkins is retired, married and lives in Shreveport.

1960

Bob Johnson is retired, married and lives in Bossier.

1963

James E. Smith Jr. is retired, married and lives in Gretna.

Edgar Lee Johnson is retired and lives in Angleton, Texas.

John Walter Mitchell Sr. is a retired math teacher and principal. He is

married and lives in Garland, Texas and Zwolle.

1964

Sandra Dean Joyce Bullock is a retired teacher, married and lives in Oxford, N.C.

Linda Phenice Rogers is retired and lives in Jennings.

1965

Linda Gauthier Amberg is retired, married and lives in Plaquemine.

1966

John B. Woodyard II is currently doing bird surveys and Pinon Jay radio tracking for The Great Basin Bird Observatory. He is married and lives in Baker, Nev.

1967

Ginger Gail Smith Eisenrod is the owner of Southeast Realty Equities, married and lives in Coral Springs, Fla.

Shirley Nell Simmons Ward is retired, married to James Carlis Ward Sr. ('65) and lives in Leesville.

1968

Dr. Margaret Foster Land retired from Texas A&M University-Kingsville. She is a co-owner of Texas Environmental Studies & Analysis and works as a biostatistician.

Douglas Charrier is retired and lives in Hessmer.

1969

Patricia Slifer Lane is an academic advising coordinator at Montana State University and lives in Bozeman, Mont.

Janice Shivers Boley is retired, married and lives in Farmerville.

Judy Hilburn Young is employed by Van Eaton and Romero as a real estate agent and lives in Lafayette.

## Carlos Treadway

By Leigh Gentry

Carlos Treadway graduated from NSU in December of 1992 with a degree in business administration. He was able to pursue his college football career as a tight end for the Demons thanks to an athletic scholarship.

Treadway chose business administration, because it was one of the best programs when he started in 1988, and the program at NSU gave him a foundation that allowed him to continue his education. He graduated with a masters in business with a concentration in finance from Texas Christian University.

NSU prepared Treadway for his future career in more ways than one. The university's small environment helped him to learn business skills, which would later come in handy in graduate school as well as in his job. But what most prepared him were the people with whom he attended class and played football.

"They exposed me to different points of view," he said.

Treadway's four years of college required him to balance the rigor of football and schoolwork, he said, which prepared him for having to balance work, family and life in the real world.

Treadway works for Ford Motor Credit Company and has been with the company for 14 years. He is currently the director of Minority Dealer Relations & Multi-Cultural Affairs at Ford. As director Treadway manages programs for minority dealers and is responsible for advertising and marketing.

Treadway, a native of Alexandria, lived in Texas for 10 years, divided between Dallas and Houston, and later moved to Detroit where he lives with his wife, Kim, and 19-month-old son Austyn.

He fondly remembers the relationships he made at the university and on the football field, where he shined. He was one of the 13 honorary captains on the Top 100 Demon Football Players of All-Time roster that was compiled last year.

He misses the daily comradery of his teammates and the support of the university and the whole Natchitoches community, he said.

"You really come to appreciate Natchitoches even more after you leave school," he said.



1971

Kenneth Michael Bates is retired from the United States Army, currently a teacher and coach. He is married to Donna E. Middleton Bates ('71) and lives in Natchitoches.

Irene Morgel Robinson is the president/owner of KWCL-FM Broadcasting Co. and lives in Oakdale.

1972

Michael "Kirby" Ramsey is a professor of clinical lab science at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, married and lives in Ruston.

Charles William Boudreau is employed at Vista Health, married and lives

in Fayetteville, Ark.

Captain John L. Taylor is the owner of Captain John L.'s Charters and lives in Buras.

Curtis Wester is a regional operations coordinator at Lifetouch National School Studios and lives in Bulverde, Texas.

1973

Leonard Ford, Jr. is employed by Region VI Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities as a community services specialist supervisor, married and lives in Alexandria.

1974

Ronald Dale Carson is the intensive care unit charge nurse at Promise Hospital Bossier, married and lives in Bossier.

Jerrie Ammons Choate is a teacher at Mansfield High School, married and lives in Mansfield.

1975

James E. Sanders is retired and lives in Baton Rouge.

Jesse Lee Nobles Jr. is a business math instructor at Richmond School of Health and Technology, married and lives in Petersburg, Va.

Karen Mathies Keogh is

the manager of sales training and development at Talecris Biotherapeutics and lives in Glendale, Ariz.

Stan Brouillette is the director of human resources at RPC, Inc., married and lives in Houma.

1977

Peggy Vidrine Brown is an accounting analyst at PPG Industries, Inc. and lives in Lake Charles.

1978

Charles H. Kern is employed by the Caddo Parish Indigent Defender Office as a juvenile investigator, married and lives in Bossier City.

## Alumni Profile

### David J. Melton

By Leigh Gentry



**D**avid J. Melton graduated in May 1976 with a degree in general studies from NSU. Shortly after, he started his career in the Social Security Administration as a claims representative, and later became an operation supervisor. His job has taken him many places—Waco, Tx.; Lake Charles, La.; Winchester, Va.; and most recently the Washington, D.C. area.

Melton has been a public affairs specialist for the Social Security Administration since 2005. From 2005-2006 he worked with the U. S. military on the Seriously Injured Marines and Sailors (SIMS) project; the goal of the project was to examine the process of giving out Social Security benefits to injured marines, soldiers and sailors.

Their research found early on that the injured military personnel were not availing themselves to get all the benefits to which they were entitled, and by coordinating this process they were able to increase amount of benefits substantially. The Social Security Administration was able to point out special benefits found in the soldiers' claims.

Melton's team also worked with

different government agencies to cut down the time it took to get these benefits from 120 days to less than 30 days. He enjoyed working on this project, because it gave him the opportunity to work and meet with these soldiers and to hear their "stories of valor."

"You can't help but be inspired around them," Melton said.

Melton and his team received the SSA Commissioner's Team Award in September 2007. This was his second award in his career with the SSA. The first was an individual award, which he received in 2001 as a field representative. He said the second award was better and more satisfying, because it was a team award that had a national implication.

Melton's work is not over. He gives presentations several times a year, and he and his team did more than 900 outreach events in seven months.

"I have opportunities to do things and to reach communities I never dreamed of," Melton said.

Melton enrolled at NSU as a nursing major but changed his mind once he went to Shreveport to begin clinicals. He had taken sociology and anthropology classes at NSU as electives; he realized he like those better than his nursing classes, so he changed his major to general studies.

"I thoroughly enjoyed living and going to school there," Melton said. He returned to Natchitoches each year for the Christmas Festival until 1989. Melton said he misses meatpies and red beans and rice from Lasyone's.

"Northwestern was just the right size," Melton said. "It was small enough that you knew people and never got lost in the crowd."

NSU exposed Melton to the concept of "always learning," which helped him later in his job at SSA. His job is continually changing in technology and policies, and he is still learning.

He learned about job opportunities with the SSA from another student he knew at NSU who was a year older than him. That student told him that he was working for an agency that affects everyone, which appealed to Melton. He liked what he heard, and he applied for the job.

Working and living in the Washington, D.C. area was his goal, which he has now accomplished. Melton enjoys working with people and enjoys his job in public affairs, because it allows him to have an impact.

Melton has been married twice and has a son from his first marriage. He began his second marriage 9 months ago, and has a stepdaughter and stepson.

#### 1979

Barbara Jean Kensie Banks is a retired principal, married and lives in Alexandria.

Sandra Maricle Lanier is employed by the Calcasieu Parish Board as a second grade teacher and lives in Lake Charles.

#### 1980

Walter Murrell Walker Jr. is a senior army instructor at Woodlawn High School and lives in Shreveport.

Shyrl Caldwell Johnson is a Title One contact for Brevard Public School and lives in Melbourne, Fla.

#### 1982

Premchai Navarasuchitr is the general manager at URC (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and lives in Bangkok, Thailand.

#### 1984

Jairo Alfonso Serrato is an analyst cost scheduler for Nexen Inc. and lives in Calgary, Canada.

Christine Avant Gaspard is employed by the Lafayette Parish School Board as department chair special education, married and lives in New Iberia.

#### 1985

Janet Magee Greer is employed by the DeSoto

Parish School Board as an assistant principal, married and lives in Pelican.

#### 1986

Kimberly Merten Escott is a service operations manager at Procter & Gamble and lives in Ball.

#### 1987

Janice Wheat Zerecheck is a human resource manager for Target Corporation, married and lives in Seabrook, Texas.

#### 1988

Thomas Braswell is a case manager at St. Josephs Mercy Hospital and lives in Hot Springs, Ark.

Bruce Joseph Tassin is an administrator at Christus St. Frances Cabrini Hospital, married and lives in Pineville.

Kathy Burns DeSoto is the assistant director of application programming at LSU Health Sciences Center and lives in Stonewall.

#### 1989

Tammacee Daniece Vincent is a coordinator forensic nurse program at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital, married and lives in Lake Charles.

Susan Allen Coleman is employed by Winn Parish School Board as an eight

grade math teacher and lives in Winnfield.

#### 1990

Angela Chance Griffis is employed by Florence ISD as a third grade teacher, married and lives in Georgetown, Texas.

Andrea Madison Lowe is the executive director of LA Community Health Connection and lives in LaPlace.

#### 1991

Charlotte Holmes Ortegón is retired and lives in DeSoto, Texas.

Becky Ricks Armand is a varsity track and cross country coach at Prince of

Peace Christian School. She is married to Keith Armand ('90) and lives in Carrollton, Texas.

Sheletha Wilson Hamilton is employed by the State of Louisiana as an information technology tech support specialist, married and lives in Clinton.

#### 1992

Janna Baxley Antille is a paralegal and office manager at Luneau Law Office, married to David L. Antille II ('91) and lives in Bentley.

Ronald Charles Michael Jr. is a project manager at Industrial Coating



Contractors Inc. and lives in Baton Rouge.

Shelia Thompson is a library specialist I at Northwestern State University and lives in Natchitoches.

#### 1993

Sara Tinker Robertson is an audit manager for the Louisiana State Police-Gaming Audit and lives in Bossier City.

Rhonda M. Regouffre is a clinical documentation consultant at Therapy Management Corporation and lives in Metairie.

#### 1994

Angel Huval, LCSW is employed by St. Martin Parish School Board as Kids in Crisis supervisor and lives in Lafayette.

Jennifer Zimmerle is a sales representative at Pelican Promotions & Advertising Specialties and lives in Slidell.

Russell Graef is employed with Killeen ISD as a teacher and lives in Temple, Texas.

Stephanie George Taylor is employed with Superior Home Health as a registered nurse and lives in Baton Rouge.

Alana Mack Bishop is a mental health program director the East LA Mental Health System, married to Robert Bishop ('95) and lives in Port Vincent.

#### 1995

Alison K. Hahs Sheets is a marketing director at Presbyterian Manor, married and lives in Farmington, Mo.

Stephanie Adkins Hills is a program analyst for the Department of Veteran Affairs and lives in Copley, Ohio.

Martha Johnson Hubbs is a family and consumer sciences teacher at Clinton High School, married to Chris Hubbs ('00) and lives in Clinton, Tenn.

Nicole Gray is the owner of Colbert Ball Tax Service and lives in Cedar Hill, Texas.

Robert M. Bishop is a computer technician at ENGlobal Corporation, married to Alana Mack Bishop ('94) and lives in Port Vincent.

Rendy Polk Richard is a recruiter/academy staff for the Baton Rouge Police Department, married and lives in Walker.

Chris Dene Knighten Ebarb is a family planning supervisor at Caddo Parish Health Unit, married and lives in Keithville.

#### 1997

Sarah Crooks Clancy is a public relations coordinator at Rapides Regional Medical Center, married and lives in Pineville.

Heather Cavin Stevens is employed at Concentra in human resources and lives in Glendale, Ariz.

Davin Bridges is an environmental science officer in the United States Army.

Tracy Mitchell Young is a Sportsman's Paradise/Crossroads field representative for Louisiana Travel Promotion Association, married and lives in Shreveport.

Laine Coleman is area manager of sales at KCI Medical and lives in Mandeville.

Audry Desadier Seegers is employed by the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office as a deputy and lives in Bossier City.

#### 1998

Brandi Poche' Taylor is a bone and tissue coordinator for Presbyterian Hospital of Plano, married and lives in Highland Village, Texas.

Holly Rebecca Dupuis Hollier is a teacher at Arnaudville Elementary School, married and lives in Opelousas.

Claire Chester Wardell is the office manager at Center for Sight, married to Pete Wardell ('00) and lives in Natchitoches.

Lucy Adams Walsh is a

cardiac transplant coordinator at Piedmont Hospital and lives in Canton, Ga.

Anthony Williams is employed by Omnicell as a project manager and lives in Missouri City, Texas.

George J. Hicks is an accreditation specialist on the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology and lives in Chicago, Ill.

Janery Wylie Barnes is a training manager for Alltel and lives in Sheridan, Ark.

Kristine Eckerman is an assistant manager in audio services at the University of Maryland and lives in Silver Spring, Md.

#### 1999

Melissa Lynnette Smith Robertson is employed with the Department of Social Services as an analyst II, married and lives in Pineville.

Kathleen Gillan is a panhellenic advisor at the University of Georgia and lives in Athens, Ga.

Melinda Gray Parrie is a multimedia director and web administrator at NSU and lives in Natchitoches.

Kevin Brough is an IT support center analyst at Cleco Corporation and lives in Pineville.

Chad Davis is a network supervisor at First National Banker's Bank, married to April Daigle Davis ('00) and lives in Livonia.

Rebecca Lloyd is a biosurety program specialist at General Dynamics Information Technology and lives in Ashburn, Va.

Jennifer Beth Watts is employed by Motorola in accessories and lives in Grayslake, Ill.

Gail Odette Henderson is an associate professor of English at Baton Rouge Community College and lives in Rosedale.

Sharon Curtis Arbaugh is an accounting clerk for KTBS, Inc, married and lives in Benton.

#### 2000

Chris Hubbs is employed with Morgan Keegan as an investment broker and financial planner, married to Martha Johnson Hubbs ('95) and lives in Clinton, Tenn.

Leigh Anne Price Webster is the project manager for SAIC and lives in Vero Beach, Fla.

Dr. Pete Wardell is an optometrist and owner of Center for Sight, married to Claire Chester Wardell ('98) and lives in Natchitoches.

Katie Bowen Cooper is the director of stewardship for the LSU Foundation and lives in Baton Rouge.

Tiffany Cronin Crawford is employed by Corpus Independent School District as a teacher and coach. She is married and lives in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Branden D. Johnson is a program manager for SHRT and lives in Longview, Texas.

Kevin M. Toler is an area manager for Enterprise Rent a Car and lives in League City, Texas.

Bujar Namani is employed by the United States Army as a deployment officer and lives in Fairfield, Calif.

#### 2001

Tabitha Johnigan Johnson is a scheduler for CORE and lives in Longview, Texas.

Kevin McAllister is a lieutenant colonel in the United States Army and lives in Leesville.

Kathryn Richards DioQuino is a senior customer analytics analyst for Lowe's Companies, Inc. and lives in Troutman, N.C.

Rosemarie Bethley Finklea is employed by the state of Arkansas as an accountant in the fiscal division and lives in Beebe, Ark.

Tammy Megow Jones is recruitment officer for the United State Marine Corps and lives in Camillus N.Y.

## In Memory

1941 – Lucy B. Howard, January 21, 2008

1942 – Adelaide Smith Carlin, January 20, 2007, Alexandria

1943 – Albert Gerson, July 25, 2007, Monroe

1949 – Dorothy Kinnison, March 17, 2008, West Monroe

1953 – Betty Sue Choate Key, May 2, 2008, Natchitoches

1954 – Billy McCoy, March 19, 2007

1954 – O'Keefe John Gremillion Jr., March 23, 2008

1959 – Robert Eric (Coach) Wicker, April 17, 2008

2000 – James Patrick "Jay" Giblin, April 4, 2008, Baton Rouge

2007 – Clay Firmin, Cottonport

Saidee Watson Newell, March 23, 2008

Mable Ragan Black, April 26, 2008, Lake Charles

Jimmie Ruth Sewell Dillard, Nov. 27, 2006,

Refugio, Texas

**Correction:** Julius Morgan Burkett (1961, 1963) was erroneously listed among the deceased alumni in a previous column. The actual deceased was the father of Mr. Morgan, also named Julius. Julius M. Burkett and his wife Sharon currently reside in Nacogdoches, Texas.

#### 2002

Vicky Boudreaux Collins is a preschool director at Kama aina Kids and lives in Waipahu, Hawaii.

Yolanda Denise Waldrup Telsee is a claims representative for the Social Security Administration, married and lives in Campiti.

Crystal Fontenot Sharp is a registered nurse at Willis-Knighton Health System and lives in Bethany.

Ronald Seth Busby is employed by the Louisiana Department of Labor as an unemployment insurance tax agent and lives in Shreveport.

#### 2003

Loyman Joseph Prestenbach is the director of bands at Franklinton High School, married to Melissa Ann Prestenbach ('07) and lives in Franklinton.

Jennifer Jeanne Paul is the interim director of student leadership at Southeastern Louisiana University and lives in Hammond.

Sarah Darbonne Thibodeaux is an esthetician at Fine Lines Cosmetic Laser Center, married and lives in Morse.

Kristin Wilkins Sessums is a registered dietitian at Ocean Springs Hospital, married and lives in Biloxi, Miss.

Cassie Shunk Skiles is a financial analyst for Coldwell Banker and lives in Aliso Viejo, Calif.

Marion Yelverton Newson is a teacher at Our Lady of Sorrows School and lives in Birmingham, Ala.

Jennifer Willey Limon is a clinical coordinator at Delgado Community College and lives in Hammond.

Cassie Elaine Griffin is a radiologic technologist, married and lives in Robeline.

Allison Mers is a hospice care consultant and lives in Plano, Texas.

Jennifer Bryant Durrett is a dispatcher for Vernon Parish E-911, married to David Neil Durrett ('03) and lives in Hornbeck.

# LOOKING BACK



Members of that year's team were, front row from left, Dave Moody, Danny Boyette, Don Cook and Loyd Huval. On the middle row were Sonny Martinez, Johnny Tinnell, Don May, John Waldo, Bill Pearson, Barry Johnson, Jerry Ainsworth and Henry Walton. On the back row were Hugh Holey, Terrell Leach, Charles Fulco, Bob Knighton, John Nipper, Mickey Murphy, Melton Cook, Alan Lundgren and Ken Terewey. Not shown are Charles Partin and Manager Herbert Temple.

Balance Act: Terrell Leach, Bill Pearson and Charles Partin



Northwestern boasted a champion gymnastics team in 1957. That year, the team, under the direction of Joe Piscopo, went undefeated in all meets for the fourth year in a row with some meet records dating back even further. The muscle men brought the championships of the Gulf AAU, the Southern AAU, the Southwestern AAU and the Mid-South Intercollegiate meets.



## Guess Who?

The NSU chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha was chartered 35 years ago to uphold the standard of God first, people second, self last. Their colors, salmon pink and apple green, stand for high scholastic achievement. As a sorority they are dedicated to "The Service of all Mankind." Can you name the officers of Alpha Kappa Alpha from 1983? The first five readers to call the Alumni Center (318) 357-4414 will win a prize.

Congratulations to the following individuals who correctly identified the Current Sauce staff from 1981. They were, seated from left, Allison Arthur, Editor David L. LaVere and Sandi Therell. On the second row were Joe Cunningham, Susan Higgs Monday and James Ingram. On the back row were Mark Cosand, Mike Gallien, Kevin Murphy and David Stamey.

Ms. Daphne Hines - 1984 - Natchitoches, LA

Mrs. Fern Land - 1981 - Colfax, LA

### 2004

Melissa J. Hardaway is currently a grad student at LSU, working on her masters in communications studies and lives in Baton Rouge.

Tiffany Dawn Stevenson is a fifth grade teacher at Faith Family Academy and lives in Carrollton, Texas.

Tina Cowan Kimmons is employed by Corinth School District as a school counselor and lives in Corinth, Miss.

Christopher D. Pearson is a CCP for JP Morgan Chase and lives in Monroe.

Brooke Byrd McCorkle is a kindergarten teacher at Red River Elementary School, married to Michael McCorkle ('04) and lives in Castor.

Carisma Ramsey is a marketing producer at NBC 5/KXAS and lives in Irving, Texas.

### 2005

Darnel Winns is employed by Supports & Services

Center as a social service counselor 2 and lives in Marksville.

Candice Detillier Huber is a technical recruiter at Strategic Staffing Solutions, married and lives in Kenner.

Monique Shunta Atkins is employed by the Shreveport Police Department as PCO I and lives in Shreveport.

Jacob Benjamin Davis is an energy trading analyst for Stream Energy, married and lives in Richardson, Texas.

Pamela Brittany Hung Rutledge is a sales representative, married to Billy Ray Rutledge ('05) and lives in Arkadelphia, Ark.

Reed Markham is employed by the United States Army as an executive officer and lives in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Britany Coleman is an academic advisor at McNeese State University and lives in Lake Charles.

### 2006

Carrie Dawley is employed by Vernon Parish School Board as a teacher and lives in Leesville.

Lauri Johnson Woodson is an academic secretary at East Texas Baptist University and lives in Marshall, Texas.

Jessica Lacobee is employed by Caddo Parish Schools as a teacher and lives in Shreveport.

Tiffany Nicole Garcia is employed at LSUHSC as

a registered nurse and lives in Shreveport.

### 2007

Laura Worsham Mayeaux is a labor and delivery registered nurse and lives in Coushatta.

Shantell Marie Francis is a child welfare specialist and lives in New Iberia.

Kristen Joubert Bailey is an accounts payable specialist for ABC Imaging, married and lives in Arlington, Va.





# Alumni Updates

Visit our website at  
[www.northwesternalumni.com](http://www.northwesternalumni.com)  
and click on "Update our files"  
or use this printed form.

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Alumni Updates" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle

Last

First

Middle

Maiden

Current address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

NSU undergraduate degree(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

NSU graduate degree(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

During which years did you attend NSU? \_\_\_\_\_

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU? \_\_\_\_\_

Place of employment \_\_\_\_\_

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's graduate degree (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students?**

Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497

**If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:**

**University Recruiting**

South Hall

Natchitoches, LA 71497

(318) 357-4503 or 800-327-1903

[www.nsula.edu/enrollmentservices/recruiting](http://www.nsula.edu/enrollmentservices/recruiting)

**Financial Aid**

Room 109, Roy Hall

Natchitoches, LA 71497

(318) 357-5961

[www.nsula.edu/financialaid](http://www.nsula.edu/financialaid)

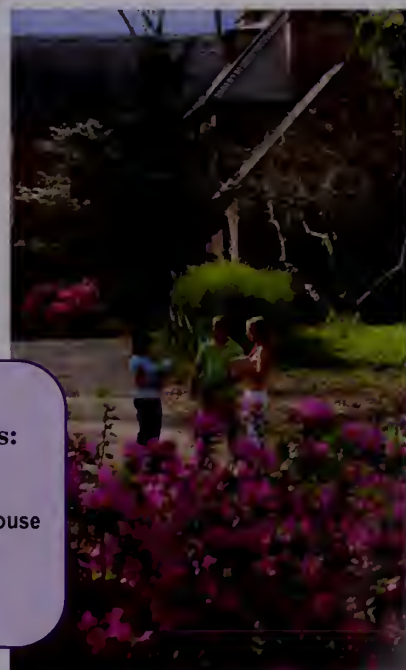
**Athletic Director**

Room 101C, Athletic Fieldhouse

Natchitoches, LA 71497

(318) 357-5251

[www.nsudemons.com](http://www.nsudemons.com)





ROW 1 from bottom L to R: James L. Rougeau, Paula Walden Burnitt, Juanita Martinez Coutee, Frank Ebarb, James P. Plumb, Andrew Morris Bruce, David Vargas, James Kenneth Corley, Linda Whitehead Perot, Jimmy D. Hayes. ROW 2: Frances Elouise Sanders, Katherine Muse Timon, Jean McGlothlin Doerge, Katie Jean Myers Young, Patricia Cowart Wilkerson, Kenneth Lee Terwey, O. Bryant Lewis, Jane Brown Huff, Max Huff. ROW 3: Anita Ruth Simmons Stedman, Carolyn H. Erwin Rigsby, Mary Jo Masingill Whittington, Winnie L. Bennett, James F. Bennett, Charles E. LaRoux. ROW 4: Marianne Jones Juneau, Bobbie Kornegay Voorhies, Carl O. Speed, Billy Plunkett, Wilburn Crnkovic. ROW 5: Tommy Glynn Johnson, C. Elizabeth Walker Johnson, Hollis R. Bray, Dewey Page, Lloyd M. Swor, Randell A. Fletcher, Bobbie Rae Stott.

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